

HSV encephalitis with posterior localization

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A 50-year-old woman presented with generalized seizure, stupor, and fever. Lumbar puncture yielded CSF with increased leukocytes and protein content. PCR analyses of the CSF revealed DNA of only herpes simplex virus (HSV) type 1 among herpes viruses. Brain diffusion-weighted MR image clearly revealed multifocal hyperintense lesions (figure).¹ This is the first reported case of HSV encephalitis in which MRI demonstrated lesions restricted to the temporal, parietal, and occipital lobes without the typical localization of HSV encephalitis in the insula and inferior frontal lobe.² IV acyclovir proved effective to limit the extension of the lesions, resulting in her clinical recovery.

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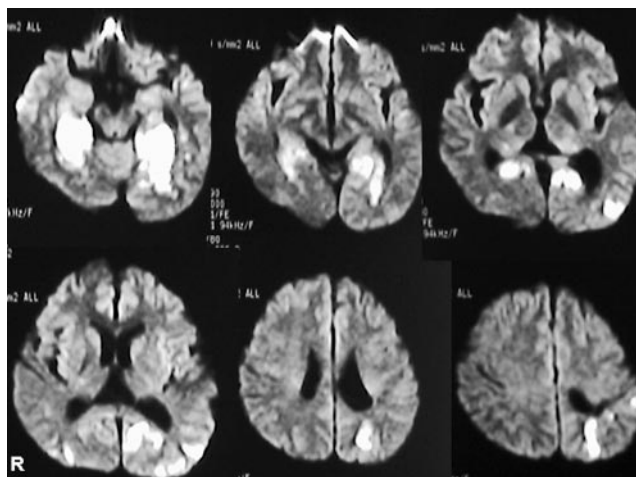


Figure. Diffusion-weighted MR images of the brain on the 9th day of illness. Multiple hyperintense areas were identified in bilateral occipital lobes and left parietal lobe in addition to bilateral inferomedial temporal lobes. Those areas were also hyperintense on T2-weighted images, although less recognizable than on diffusion-weighted images.

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